

# QUAPAW TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

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December 4, 2013

Kathy Gibson  
Superfund State Coordinator/PO  
Contracts and Budget Section 6SF-VC  
Region 6 EPA, Dallas, Texas  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202

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EPA REGION VI  
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SUPERFUND DIV.  
REMEDIAL ACTION & RESOURCES  
BRANCH (6SF-VI)

Dear Ms. Gibson,

Pursuant to our discussions regarding the "Catholic 40" RA (CB 11) project within the Tar Creek site, the Quapaw Tribe (Tribe) is submitting revisions to you (EPA), of the Work Plan, Budget, and associated Site Specific Plans which were approved by EPA in May of this year. These documents have been revised to reflect that the Tribe will be "self-performing" work associated with "Task 1" described in the original Work Plan, and listed in the associated budget.

Due to the sensitive historic and cultural nature of the Catholic 40 site, the Tribe is best suited to protect cultural and historical features at the site during remediation. The Tribe is confident that it has the personnel, expertise, and experience to self-perform this work. Specifically, through its construction division (Quapaw Services Authority or "QSA"), the Tribe has completed multiple construction projects utilizing in-house construction management personnel and equipment. Many of these projects have included excavating and hauling material and road repair similar to the requirements for the work to be performed at this site. Also, the Quapaw Tribe Environmental Office (QTEO) has participated in the development of the overall Remedial Action Plans for Operable Unit 4 at Tar Creek and thus has the capacity to oversee the technical aspects of the remediation. Finally, by performing this work, the Tribe will build capacity to perform remediation on other Tribal lands within the Tar Creek site.

As we have discussed, the Tribe will lease some of the equipment and trucks needed to complete the work on schedule and will likely contract out some portions of the work for which we will need assistance. However, as you will see in the enclosed amended Work Plan and budget, instead of contracting out all of Task 1, as originally proposed, the Tribe now intends to perform the Task 1 work.

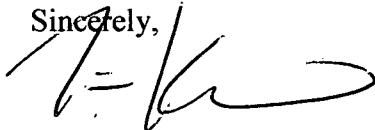
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The enclosed documents have been revised in accordance with numerous comments from EPA; and we (the Tribe) understand that the latest comments received from EPA early this week were the last comments to be addressed. Please review the enclosed documents to confirm that all of EPA's comments have been addressed and let me know if EPA requires any additional changes.

It should be noted that the enclosed documents do not include the final Community Involvement Plan (CIP) because we (the Tribe) are addressing comments submitted to us, regarding the draft CIP, by Ms. Janetta Coats. We anticipate sending the final revised CIP to you at the end of this week. However, to avoid losing the availability of Tribal human resources available to start work, the Tribe requests approval from EPA to begin preliminary site work based on the completed enclosed documents. If you have questions or additional requirements, please call me at 918-533-2592.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'T-Kent', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Tim Kent, PG  
Environmental Director  
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma